

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 10 being in independent form.

Based on the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections, and that they be withdrawn.

Examiner Interview

Applicant's representatives, Martin M. Zoltick and Brian S. Rosenbloom, wish to thank Examiner Chang for extending the courtesy of the telephonic interview held on September 11, 2003, and for the helpful and courteous discussions.

Claims 1 and 10 and U.S. Patent No. 6,286,139 issued to DeCinque (hereafter "DeCinque") were discussed during the interview. Applicant's representatives argued that claims 1 and 10, and the claims dependent thereon, are patentable over the DeCinque reference. More specifically, Applicant's representatives argued that claims 1 and 10 include features that are neither taught nor suggested by DeCinque or any other art of record. As indicated in the Examiner Interview Summary, it was agreed that the features of claims 1 and 10 that were discussed during the interview "are not disclosed in the art of record." Accordingly, as indicated in the Examiner Interview Summary, an agreement with respect to the claims was reached.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of DeCinque.

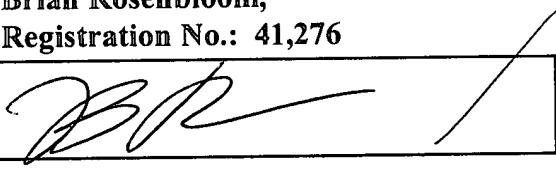
As discussed above, during the September 11, 2003 telephone interview an agreement with the Examiner was reached whereby the Examiner agreed that DeCinque does not disclose or suggest all of the features of any of claims 1-18. Applicant's representatives, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-18 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections, and that they be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
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